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## CM Revanth Reddy orders vigilance inquiry into HCA-Sunrisers Hyderabad issue

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy took a serious view of the reported attitude of the Hyderabad Cricket Association towards Sunrisers Hyderabad.

Once the report is submitted, stringent action will be taken against the erring officials and no one will be spared, a senior official of the HCA informed 'Telangana Today' on Monday.

## CM Revanth Reddy Outlines Vision for Telangana's Development



GNS News Agency, March 31

Hyderabad: Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has reaffirmed his commitment to the state's development, emphasising job creation, law and order, and major infrastructure projects. Speaking at a recent event, he highlighted the government's efforts to ensure economic growth and social welfare. "The state is progressing towards welfare and development. We are working hard to create employment opportunities for the youth. Investments will only come when law and order are under control, and we are taking strict

action against anti-social elements," he stated. The Chief Minister also spoke about his partnership with Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka, likening their efforts to a pair of oxen tirelessly working for Telangana's progress. He expressed his vision for Hyderabad to gain global recognition and serve as a model for the rest of the country. As part of this initiative, CM Revanth Reddy highlighted key infrastructure projects, including the Musi River Rejuvenation, Regional Ring Road, and Future City. He asserted that Future City would be a major hub for investment and employment, setting an example for urban development in India. "New cities must be built in this country, and Future City will be a model for the nation. It will be designed as an investment hub, creating lakhs of jobs and livelihood opportunities. We will take strict action against those attempting to hinder the state's progress," he warned. He also credited Sonia Gandhi for introducing the Food Security Act, ensuring that no poor person goes hungry. Additionally, he emphasised the government's efforts to support farmers in growing fine rice, further strengthening Telangana's agricultural sector. The CM's remarks highlight his government's commitment to making Telangana a leader in economic and infrastructural growth while ensuring the welfare of its people.

## Congress Govt Failed To Deliver Six Guarantees: Kishan Reddy

Hyderabad, March 31 (NSS): Union Minister and BJP Telangana President Kishan Reddy today alleged that the Congress government had failed to fully implement the six guarantees given to people. A meeting of BJP office-bearers was held at the party's central office in Hyderabad under the chairmanship of Kishan Reddy. The party MLAs, MPs, MLCs and newly elected district presidents were present in this meeting.

Kishan Reddy discussed key issues during the meeting and gave directions to the party leaders on organizational matters. He asked the party leaders to complete the process of the appointment of the remaining district presidents and mandal presidents. He gave advice and suggestions to the BJP cadre to prepare for struggles on behalf of the people against the Revanth Reddy's government. Kishan Reddy discussed the steps to be taken to take the fight on behalf of the farmers on the six guarantees. He claimed that the people of the State were now looking towards the BJP and added they were waiting for the BJP leaders to continue their struggles and come to power.

Reddy said they had won the Teacher and Graduate MLC elections recently. He said they won two seats despite the conspiracies of the Congress and BRS parties. Kishan Reddy criticized that the previous BRS MLCs did not contest and mocked that the Congress party raised its hands before the MLC elections. He accused the Revanth government of trying to stab the people who voted for it. He called upon the BJP cadres to launch a public movement against the Congress party and prepare for struggles. He said there was opposition among the people against the KCR family and the BRS party. He suggested that the party should be strengthened through struggles. He also said the pending committees should be completed immediately. He also said the party should be strengthened organizationally. He directed that activities should be prepared before Ambedkar Jayanti. He wanted 100% booth and mandal committees should be completed before the deadline. He said the Yuva Morcha should be prepared to fight against the problems of the farmers, power cuts and unemployment. He also said the party's Mahila Morcha should fight against women's issues. He suggested that full focus should be given to the local body elections. He said the BJP should move forward with the slogan of winning the local body elections. Kishan Reddy said while preparing for the local body elections, efforts should be made to strengthen the party. (NSS)

## Sonia Gandhi Slams Modi Government Over NEP 2020 Implementation

GNS News Agency, March 31

New Delhi: Former Congress President Sonia Gandhi on Monday has strongly criticized the BJP-led Narendra Modi government over the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. She alleged that the policy is being imposed to serve political objectives without adequate consultation. In a newspaper article, Gandhi accused the central government of using NEP 2020 as a tool to advance its agenda based on the '3Cs'—centralization, commercialization, and communalism. She asserted that the policy undermines the role of state governments in shaping education policies, thereby weakening the federal structure of governance. The dispute over NEP between the Tamil Nadu government and the Centre remains unresolved, with the DMK-led state government opposing the policy. Chief Minister MK Stalin has specifically criticized the imposition of the Hindi language, asserting that Tamil Nadu will not accept such a move. However, Gandhi, while strongly criticizing the central government, did not directly address the Hindi language controversy in her article.

## CJI-led Bench to hear PIL against Places of Worship Act 1991 on Tuesday



GNS News Agency, March 31

New Delhi: The Supreme Court is slated to hear, on Tuesday, a public interest litigation (PIL) challenging the constitutional validity of a provision of the Places of Worship Act, 1991. As per the causelist published on the website of the apex court, a bench of CJI Sanjiv Khanna and Justice Sanjay Kumar will hear the latest plea in the row on April 1. The CJI Khanna-led Bench is already seized of a clutch of pleas challenging the validity of the contentious law, which prohibits the filing of a lawsuit to reclaim a place of worship or seek a change in its character from what prevailed on August 15, 1947. In an interim order passed on December 12, 2024, the Supreme Court had ordered that no fresh suits would be registered under the Places of Worship Act in the country, and in the pending cases, no final

## Man stabbed to death in Saroornagar

Hyderabad: A man was stabbed to death by a youth at Karmanghat in Saroornagar on Sunday night. The victim was identified as B Venkateshwarlu (47) alias Raju, a financier from Janaki Enclave in Karmanghat in Saroornagar.

Venkateshwarlu was in a live-in relationship with a woman for the past ten months and both were residing in the same address. According to the police, the woman's son M Pavan (27), a photographer, also from Janaki Enclave, was often scolded and abused by Venkateshwarlu. On Sunday night, the duo had an argument over the same and Pavan was beating Venkateshwarlu. Around 11pm, Venkateshwarlu had made a phone call to police and informed that Pavan was beating him. However, by the time police reached the spot, Pavan attacked Venkateshwarlu with a knife on his chest, stomach and shoulder and fled from the spot. The Saroornagar police shifted Venkateshwarlu to the Osmania General Hospital in an ambulance, where the doctors declared him dead. A case was booked and being investigated.

## KCR extends Eid greetings, reminds BRS govt's role in promoting inclusive growth



GNS News Agency, March 31

Hyderabad: Former Chief Minister and BRS president K Chandrashekhara Reddy extended Eid-ul-Fitr greetings to the Muslim community. He said the holy month of Ramzan fosters the values of peace, devotion, and brotherhood in the society. Recalling Telangana's Ganga Jamuni Tehzeeb promoting communal harmony, Chandrashekhara Reddy said the BRS government's decision

long regime implemented minority welfare with commitment. From the Telangana statehood movement to governance, he said the party ensured Muslim minorities were key stakeholders in the State's progress. Eid ul Fitr on Monday as new moon sighted in Telangana; check out prayer timings at Hyderabad mosques. The BRS supreme pointed to innovative welfare schemes in education and economic empowerment, crediting BRS policies for maintaining religious harmony, peace, and security, setting an example for the rest of the nation. He asserted that Hyderabad's investment boom, attracting global business giants, was possible due to stability and secular governance under BRS. He stated that Telangana's flourishing real estate, pharma, and other sectors, were the result of policies fostering social unity and communal harmony, which in turn created employment opportunities for lakhs of youth. He hoped that the State's development trajectory would continue on the foundation of universal brotherhood and harmony laid by the BRS. BRS working president KT Rama Rao, former Minister T Harish Rao, MLC K Kavitha and several others also extended their greetings to the Muslim community on the festive occasion.

## Eid-Ul-Fitr Celebrated With Fervour



Hyderabad, March 31 (NSS): The Muslims from the two Telugu-speaking States celebrated the holy festival of Ramadan with devotion today. In Hyderabad city, the Muslims reached the Eidgahs in large numbers and offered special prayers. Afterwards, they hugged each other and wished Eid Mubarak. Thousands participated in the special prayers held at mosques and Eidgahs. A large crowd gathered at Mecca Masjid, Miralam Eidgah, Badi Masjid and other places of prayers. After the prayers, friends and relatives hugged and wished each other. In Siddipet, BRS party MLA T. Harish Rao visited a local Eidgah and extended Eid greetings. He also hugged scores of them and wished them a happy Eid. BRS party working president KTR took to his twitter handle and extended all Muslims on the occasion of the Eid-ul-Fitr. (NSS)

## CM Revanth Orders Vigilance Inquiry Into Hca-Sunrisers Hyd Issue



Hyderabad, March 31 (NSS): Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has taken a serious stance regarding the ongoing controversy surrounding the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA). He has instructed the Vigilance department to investigate claims of threats directed at the management of Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) concerning pass distribution. The Chief Minister also emphasized the need for officials to gather information regarding the alleged harassment faced by the SRH management when requesting passes. Vigilance Director General Kothakota Srinivas Reddy has been tasked with conducting a thorough investigation and submitting a report. Revanth Reddy has warned that action will be initiated if the SRH management continues to face disturbances over the issue of passes. There is an ongoing conflict between Sunrisers Hyderabad and the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA). The SRH management has accused the HCA of subjecting them to harassment in their efforts to obtain free passes. In a letter addressed to the Hyderabad Cricket Association, the SRH management indicated that they may leave Hyderabad due to the unbearable harassment, claiming that HCA President Jagannath Rao has been pursuing them for free tickets.

The management of Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) announced that they are currently distributing ten percent of match tickets. However, the corporate boxes at the stadium were secured by the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) prior to the match, raising concerns about the ticket distribution process. In their communication, SRH management expressed significant frustration over the HCA's attempts to assert control, especially since they have cov-

ered the full rental fees for hosting IPL matches at the stadium. As a result, Sunrisers Hyderabad is considering a discussion with the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) and may look into changing the venue if negotiations do not yield a positive outcome. In light of these situations, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has mandated an investigation into the ongoing developments. (NSS)

## Woman Maoist from Telangana's Warangal killed in Chhattisgarh encounter

Kothagudem: A senior woman Maoist carrying a collective reward of Rs 45 lakh was killed in an encounter with security personnel in Chhattisgarh's Bastar region on Monday, police officials said. Dantewada DRG and Bastar Fighters took part in the encounter in the forests near Nelgoda, Ikeli and Belnar villages on the borders of Dantewada and Bijapur districts.

CPI (Maoist) party Central Regional Bureau (CRB) press team in-charge, Prabhat Patrika editor and Dandakaranya Special Zonal Committee (DKSZC) member Gummadivelli Renuka alias Bhanu alias Chaita alias Saraswati was carrying a reward of Rs 45 lakh (Rs 25 lakh reward by Chhattisgarh government and Rs 20 lakh by Telangana government).

Renuka, who studied LLB, belonged to Kadavendi erstwhile Warangal district. She joined the party in 1996 and worked with SZCM Krishanna in Andhra Pradesh. In 2003, she was promoted as DVCM. In 2006, she worked with Central Committee Member Dula Dada alias Anand in South Bastar. In 2013, she came to the Maad region and worked with SZCM Ramanna. After Ramanna died of Covid, she was made the press team in-charge of CRB in 2020. She used to issue press releases on behalf of the naxals; print and publish various magazines like Prabhat, Mahila Margam, Awami Jung, People's March, Podiyaro Pollo, Jhankar, Sangharshmarti Mahila, Pituri, Midangur and Bhumkal Sandesh.

## Tpcc President Mahesh Kumar Goud Receives 7th Dan Karate Black Belt



GNS News Agency, March 31

Hyderabad, March 31 (NSS): Mahesh Kumar Goud, the President of the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) and a Member of the Legislative Council (MLC), was awarded the 7th Dan Karate Black Belt and a certificate by the Okinawa Martial Arts Academy in Hyderabad on Monday. He earned this recognition after completing a three-hour competition held at the YWCA, where he secured both the black belt and certification. During the event, he expressed his pride and joy in receiving the 7th Dan Karate Black Belt certificate. Karate is integral to my life, and I always find time to practice it, regardless of my stress levels," Mahesh Kumar Goud stated. He also highlighted the challenges faced by today's youth, noting that many parents place undue mental stress on their children by prioritizing technology over physical activity. "Sports and exercise should be fundamental for maintaining physical health, and parents ought to encourage their children to engage in sports," the TPCC President emphasised. As the State President and National Vice-President of the Karate Association, he affirmed his commitment to prioritising the organization of Karate competitions. He also promised that steps should be taken to hold the Asian Karate Championships at Hyderabad in 2027. (NSS)

# Indian Chronicle

English Daily

## Fixing immigration

Even as Immigration and Foreigners Bill, 2025, passed by the Lok Sabha on Thursday, strengthens border security and discourages illegal migration, it has the potential to trigger far-reaching consequences — both humanitarian and economic. Historically, India has welcomed those who contribute to its development—be it Tibetan refugees who have enriched our culture and economy, or skilled professionals from abroad who support our industries. At the same time, India has taken firm action against infiltrators who pose security threats, as seen in crackdowns on illegal networks facilitating cross-border crimes. The new Bill, however, appears to focus only on deterrence, risking the rejection of even those who seek legitimate opportunities. Compared to previous laws, it proposes stricter eligibility criteria for asylum seekers, expedited deportation processes and increased penalties for undocumented workers and those aiding them. While the older policies allowed more room for case-by-case evaluation, this Bill imposes blanket rules that could prevent genuine refugees from accessing protection. It also limits work permits for migrants, potentially disrupting industries that depend on their labour. The economic implications of the Bill are severe, too. Tightened employment restrictions on undocumented workers could cripple industries like agriculture and construction, which depend on migrant labour. Moreover, a border policy that relies solely on enforcement without addressing root causes is doomed to fail. Tougher laws alone do not curb migration; they merely push desperate individuals to take riskier routes. A pragmatic approach should include investments in regional stability, legal pathways for work-based migration and stronger international cooperation. The immigration policy must balance security with opportunity. A nation can be both welcoming and watchful. The new Bill would do well to follow that lead.

## Vontimitta SriRamanavami Brahmotsavam works inspected

March 31, (Indian Chronicle) Tirupati district correspondent/TTD JEO V Veerabrahmam along with YSR Kadapa District Collector Dr. Cherukuri Sridhar and SP E. G. Ashok Kumar on Monday, inspected ongoing works of Sri Ramanavami Brahmotsavams of Sri Kodandarama Swamy Temple to be held from April 05 to April 15 in Ekashilana Garam, Vontimitta. On this occasion, they verified the arrangements in detail and made several suggestions to the officials concerned. The top brass au-



thorities inspected the roads, parking facilities, PAC building works, kiosks and other works. As the Chief Minister of AP N Chandrababu Naidu is reaching the Kalyana Vedika premises from Kadapa Airport on April 11, the JEO discussed with the District Collector and SP on the security arrangements to be made. It was suggested that parking road diversion routes should be arranged in advance in Bakarapet, along with the entry and exit routes of the devotees without any problems. "Speaking on the occasion, the District Collector suggested that the machinery should be prepared to distribute drinking water, buttermilk, Anna Prasadams, and Sita Rama Kalyanam Mutyala Talamburu packets to the devotees in the galleries. He instructed the officials to set up control rooms for the convenience of the devotees and to set up emergency routes to exit the galleries at the Kalyana Vedika. And instructed that all ongoing works should be completed on time. "Speaking on the occasion, the District SP said that security measures about 2 thousand police personnel will be deployed. He said that strong arrangements will be made at the field level without giving a chance to any sort of untoward incident. The JEO suggested that arrangements should be made in a planned manner for the distribution of emergency medical services, ambulances, fire brigade, police and Annaprasadam in the Kalyana Vedika area as per the directives given by the District Collector. Later, a department-wise review meeting was held in the Conference Hall with the various District departments and Police besides TTD officials by the TTD JEO, Collector and SP. TTD CE Satyanarayana, Venkateswarlu, Manoharam, Kadapa DRO Vishveswara Naidu, RDO John Erwin, Jammalamadugu RDO Sai Sri and other officials participated in this meeting.

## Miryala Preetham participated in Ramzan celebrations



"Indian Chronicle Chandanagar division Mahmood Baig, Rashid, Hanif and prominent friends and well-wishers met at their homes and celebrated the festival with them, wishing them Ramzan greetings. Miryala Preetham, Director of Miryala Raghava Charitable Trust, Paradeshi Naidu, Shiva, Rakesh and members of the trust participated in the program.

## VISWAVASU UGADI ASTHANAM HELD



"March 30, (Indian Chronicle), Tirupati district correspondent, "Sri ViswavasU Ugadi Asthanam was held with utmost religious fervour in Tirumala temple on Sunday. "After awakening Swamy varu with Suprabhatam at 3 am Shuddhi was performed. At 6 am, a special offering is made to Sridevi Bhudevi

sameta Sri Malayappa Swamy and Vishwakshenua Varu. Around 7 am, a procession is taken around the Vimana Prakaram. After that, the Moolavirat and the festive idols are decked in new clothes followed by Panchaga Sraavanam. The Ugadi Asthanam was conducted by vedic pundits and priests at the Bangaru Vakili as per the tenets of Vaikhanasa Agama in a grand manner. "Meanwhile TTD has cancelled the Arjitha Sevams including Kalyanotsavam, Unjal Seva and Arjitha Brahmotsavam, in view of Ugadi. "Along with a few board members, TTD Additional EO Ch Venkaiah Chowdary, Peishkar Ramakrishna, Parupattadar Bala Subramanyam and other officers were also present.

## Srivari Theertha Prasadams offered to CM of AP on Ugadi



"March 30 (Indian Chronicle) Tirumala correspondent/Amaravathi: "TTD Chairman BR Naidu along with the TTD EO J. Syamala Rao presented Sri Vari Prasadams to the Chief Minister of the AP, N Chandrababu Naidu on Sunday, on the auspicious occasion of Sri ViswavasU Nama Telugu Ugadi. "The Chairman and EO met the CM at the latter's Camp Office in Tadepalli. "On this occasion, the Chairman and EO presented Sesa Vastram and Srivari Theertha Prasadams to the Chief Minister. "Vedic Pundits offered blessings to the CM on the occasion. "Earlier, both the TTD Trust Board Chief and the EO have also formally invited the CM for the state festival of Sri Sita Rama Kalyanam on April 11 as a part of the Vontimitta Sri Kodandarama temple Brahmotsavams which is scheduled from April 05-15 in Kadapa district, by offering invitation to the CM of AP.

## MOHINI AVATARAM MEAMERISES



March 31, (Indian Chronicle), tirupati district correspondent "The ongoing annual Brahmotsavam at Sri Kodandarama Swamy temple in Tirupati witnessed Sri Rama blessing His devotees as Mohini. On Monday morning, the deity draped in colourful robes and flowers and daz-



zling jewels seated majestically inside the finely decked Palanquin as Universal Celestial Damsel which mesmerized the devotees. The pontiffs of Tirumala, DyEO Nagaratna and others were present.

## Your services will be memorable: ASP Ravi Manoharachari (Law and Order)



"March 31 (Indian Chronicle) Tirupati district correspondent "Ravi Manoharachari ASP (Law and Order) gave a grand farewell to the retired police officers on the orders of district SP V Harshavardhan Raju. "Ravi Manoharachari ASP (Law and Order) felicitated the four police officers and staff who retired in March today at the conference hall of the local police guest house in the presence of their family members and loved ones and presented them with mementos and a warm farewell. "Speaking on the occasion, the District ASP said that everyone has rendered long service to the police departments for almost 41 years and the cooperation of your wives is good and you have performed your duties efficiently and brought a good name to the police department and your family. " We are also excited that you are starting this new chapter in your life. "It's good that you are working hard and keeping the children in a good place. All your time and energy are devoted to public service in the police department. It is suggested to focus on health while spending time with family members after retirement. "He conveyed his heartiest congratulations to all of you, saying that all efforts will be made to ensure timely retirement benefits. Retired police officers thanked the district ASP for saying a grand "warm farewell" and felicitating us in our lives. "Family members of retired

police officers, police officers association president Somashekhar Reddy, secretary Shankar Reddy and other members participated in the event

## New Year: Spurt In Pollution, Cybercrime, Road Accidents Predicted

Hyderabad, March 31 (NSS): Spurt in the incidence of cyber crimes, pollution, road accidents, divorces in the country is predicted in the new year (ViswavasU samvatsaram), which commenced on Sunday. The predictions are made by noted astrologer Mulugu Sivajyothi, daughter of late Mulugu Ramalingeswara Varapradadu Siddhanthi. In her new year panchangam (almanac), the astrologer predicted that air and water pollution, food adulteration, and accidents are likely to result in large scale loss of life. Cyber cheats will invent new methods with each passing day and there is no way to stop them. Incidents of suicide by persons due to inability to repay the loan taken, will also be on the raise. Number of divorces are also likely to increase. Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttarakhand, Bengal, Assam and Arunachal Pradesh are likely to face natural calamities, and the coast line is likely to undergo a change. In spite of all the developments, road accidents cannot be stopped. Heart-related diseases, obesity likely to increase. Indian sports persons will get world recognition. Women are likely to get recognition in sports, politics and also in administration. Precious diamonds, rare metals and minerals are expected to be found in the country.

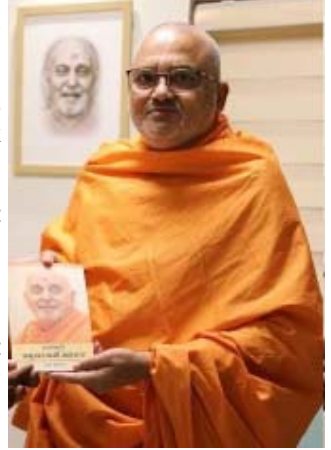
## The Shalivahanas met the Chairman of the Nayi Brahmin Corporation



March 31, (Indian Chronicle) Tirupati district correspondent "The Chairman of the State Nayi Brahmin Corporation, Rudrakoti Sadasivam, was felicitated by the President of the TDP Tirupati Parliament Shalivahana Sangam, Aamudala Tulsidas. Rudrakoti Sadasivam was felicitated with a shawl and a bouquet of flowers by Aamudala Tulsidas and the Shalivahana Sangam at his residence. Shalivahana Sangam leaders Hariprasad, Naresh, Krishna, Lokanatham Chiranjeevi participated in this program.

## Saraswati Samman Award received by Mahamahopadyaya Sri Sadhu Bhadreshdas

Mark 31 (Indian chronicle) Tirupati district correspondent "Mahamahopadyaya Sadhu Bhadreshdas to receive the Saraswati Samman 2024 for his Sanskrit book, Swaminarayana Siddhanta Sudha, celebrating Indian philosophy. Renowned Sanskrit scholar Mahamahopadyaya Sadhu Bhadreshdas will be awarded the prestigious Saraswati Samman 2024 for his book Swaminarayana Siddhanta Sudha in Sanskrit, the KK Birla Foundation said in a statement on Tuesday. Instituted in 1991. "Saraswati Samman is one of the most prestigious literary awards in the country. It is given every year to an outstanding literary work written in any Indian language by an Indian citizen and published within the last 10 years. It carries a citation, a plaque, and a cash prize of 2.15 lakh. The recipient is chosen by a selection committee, whose current head is former Supreme Court judge, Justice Arjan Kumar Sikri. Born in Nanded, Maharashtra, in 1966, Sadhu Bhadreshdas is an internationally acclaimed Sanskrit scholar and an ordained monk of the Bochasanwasi Akshar Purushottam Swaminarayan Sanstha (BAPS). "He is widely recognized as a leading intellectual in Indian philosophy, and has made remarkable contributions to preserving and promoting India's traditional Vedic knowledge system in the modern era. He has been honored with numerous prestigious titles, and has also received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Indian Council of Philosophical Research. Published in 2022, Swaminarayana Siddhanta Sudha expounds on the Prasthanatrayi, presenting the complete philosophical vision of Akshara-Purushottama Darshana in a simple yet profound manner that resonates with readers worldwide. "The text proves that the tradition of philosophical discoveries in India is not just a page in history, but a living tradition that still gives birth to new philosophical inventions. "On this occasion National Sanskrit University Tirupati Vice-Chancellor of National Sanskrit University Tirupati Prof. G.S.R Krishna Murty congratulated swamiji for receiving this auspicious award...



## A.P high court judge offered prayers to sri padmavati ammavaru.



"March 31, (Indian Chronicle) Tirupati district correspondent "A.P High court judge VRK. krupa Sagar visited Sri Padmavati Devi temple at Tiruchanoor on Monday and offered prayers.. On reaching the temple, he was welcomed by the temple authorities made arrangements for darshan. After darshan of goddess padmavathi ammavaru high court judge "Offered ammavari teertha prasadam and sacred shawl. Deputy EO Govindarajan, AEO Devarajulu, AVSO Satish Kumar, Superintendent Ramesh, senior priests of the temple Babu Swamy Tiruchanur and others participated in the event

## Prajavani put off to April 4

Hyderabad, March 29 (NSS): The Prajavani session originally scheduled for April 1, has been postponed to April 4, 2025, due to the following day of Ramzan. All the petitioners are requested to all to take note of the change and attend Prajavani Program on April 4 instead of April 1. (NSS)

## Canara Bank golden jubilee celebrations held grandly.



“March 31, (Indian Chronicle) “Tirupati district correspondent”“The golden jubilee celebrations of Canara Bank were held at the Canara Bank branch in Tiruchanur on Monday. As part of the program, the program was first launched by lighting the lamp. I Panduranga Mithanathiah, General Manager, Tirupati Circle Office, who was the chief guest at the event, said, “We are very happy to be a part of the Golden Jubilee celebrations of Canara Bank. “Canara Bank has always been doing its bit to help the country move

forward on the path of progress,” he said. “Canara Bank has been at the forefront of providing better services to the people from time to time by leveraging advanced technology in the banking sector. “Canara Bank has carved a niche for itself in providing banking services even to the common man. Earlier, Canara Bank felicitated their existing customers and handed over gifts. Tirupati Circle Office Deputy General Manager G. Narasimha was present on the occasion

## CM Revanth is demonic vulture, should be in jail: RS Praveen Kumar



Hyderabad, March 29 (NSS): BRS party leader RS Praveen Kumar has lashed out at the Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy by saying that a demonic vulture and a cunning person who should be in jail was the Home Minister & Chief Minister today.

Speaking to media persons at Telangana Bhavan, he lashed out at CM Revanth Reddy. He alleged that Revanth

was destroying all constitutional institutions and added that the CM who should protect the rights of the people was taking them away. He alleged that Revanth Reddy was unable to digest the fact that the BRS party was the main Opposition party fighting as the voice of the people and added that Revanth Reddy was targeting those who question the State government on social media. He said 15 cases were filed on March 15 and 16, cases were also being filed against those who tweeted and added that FIRs were being registered against the BRS party activists by using Section 67 of the IT Act, which should be used for obscenity. He expressed his displeasure that Revanth was misusing the Cyber Security Bureau (CSB) as the Home Minister and claimed that Revanth Reddy was using the bureau, which should protect people from digital frauds, against the BRS party. He claimed that some Cyber Security Bureau officials were working as Revanth Reddy's stooges and registering copy-paste FIRs against their party leaders. He alleged that the focus of the police was only on Telangana Bhavan in the name of cyber patrolling and wondered as to why Gandhi Bhavan and BJP offices were not included in the cyber patrolling. He claimed that Revanth was posting outrageous posts against their party leader KTR in the name of the army and added that despite the number of outrageous posts made by the Congress and BJP MPs, why is the cyber police not taking action suo motu? He said there was no obscenity in the social media posts of Gautam, Dilip Konatham, and Krishank. He demanded that the false cases filed against the BRS party's social media warriors be immediately withdrawn. (NSS)

## "Telangana govt owns 400 acres of land, hcu did not own even a single inch of land"

Hyderabad, March 31 (NSS): The Telangana government has given clarity on the criticism of BRS, BJP leaders on Hyderabad Central University land at Kanche Gachibowli at Serilingampally mandal of Rangareddy district. It has clarified that 400 acres of land belong to the government and there is no HCU land in the project. In a statement here issued by the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) on Monday, it informed that the State government had proved legally the ownership of land in the court and acquired the property which was allotted to a private company 21 years ago through a legal battle. It further stated that the development of works and auction of the land will not affect the ecosystem including rocks. Moreover, no lake exists in the land allotted for development. The Chief Minister's office stated that then State government in the erstwhile united Andhra Pradesh allotted the land to a private company in 2004 and however, the current Congress government acquired the ownership of the land by legally winning the case in the Supreme Court. "A survey report disclosed that the University of Hyderabad (Central University) did not own even a single inch of land," the statement said. "The State gov-



ernment led by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy is giving top priority to the sustainable development of the local area and conservation of the environment in every plan. However, some political leaders and reality groups are opposing the project and misleading the students for their vested interests," the CMO said. It further cautioned that disputes if any created on the ownership of land will be a contempt of the court. (NSS)

## Telangana Enters Global Rice Export Market With Maiden Shipment To Southeast Asia



Hyderabad, March 31 (NSS): Irrigation & Civil Supplies Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy on Monday announced that Telangana had successfully exported its first consignment of rice to the Philippines, marking a major step in tapping global markets for the state's surplus paddy. Speaking to media persons after flagging off the shipment at Kakinada Port, Uttam Kumar Reddy said that 12,500 metric tonnes of rice had been dispatched earlier in the day. "This is a significant moment for Telangana's farmers and our agriculture sector," he said, adding Telangana has emerged as a major paddy-producing state, thanks to favourable soil, climatic conditions, and the proactive support provided by the Congress government. He noted that paddy is the main crop cultivated by farmers, and production has seen consistent growth. "This year the annual paddy production was about 280 lakh metric tonnes (LMTs), and we often produce far more than what is required for the state and central pool," he added. The Minister pointed out that the State Government has been incurring heavy expenditure on paddy procurement and related costs. "Due to undue de-

lays in receiving the cost of Custom Milled Rice (CMR) from the Government of India and the Food Corporation of India (FCI), we are facing a serious financial burden in the form of interest payments," he said. In this context, the State government explored export options to offload surplus rice. "We found an opportunity with the Philippines, which, after conducting a thorough assessment of rice samples from Telangana, expressed interest in importing our rice," said Uttam Kumar Reddy. He informed that several rounds of discussions were held between officials of Telangana and the Philippines. "After examining the quality, the Philippines government proposed to initially purchase 1 LMT of rice and 8 LMTs of paddy from Telangana. Based on this, an MoU was signed, and a formal agreement was reached between The Telangana State Civil Supplies Corporation Limited (TGSCSCL) and Planters Products Inc., representing the Philippines government," he explained. The agreement specifies that the exported rice would be of the IR64/MTU1010 variety, with 5% broken, well-milled, polished, and sortex quality. The rice must also adhere to strict quality parameters, including minimal foreign matter, low moisture content (up to 14%), and limited damaged, discoloured, and red grains. "The export rate was finalised at Rs 36,000 per metric tonne, ex-Kakinada Port," he announced. He also stated that 103 rice mills in Telangana participated in milling the MSP paddy for this export. "This is just the beginning. We are confident that Telangana rice will soon gain a strong foothold in international markets," Uttam Kumar Reddy said and congratulated the farmers, rice millers, and officials of the Civil Supplies Corporation for their role in this achievement. (NSS)

## Bc Ministers, Mlas From Telangana Congress To Leave For Delhi Today

Hyderabad, March 31 (NSS): Ministers Konda Surekha and Ponnam Prabhakar, along with Congress MLAs representing the Backward Classes, are set to travel to New Delhi on Tuesday evening to take part in a Maha Dharma. This demonstration is planned in the national capital on April 2 to advocate for a 42 percent reservation for Backward Classes. The BC Welfare Organisations from Telangana are organising this Maha Dharma in response to a bill passed by the Telangana Legislative Assembly, which seeks to raise the BC reservations by 42 percent and urges that the legislation be approved by Parliament. Top leaders from the All India Congress Committee, including Rahul Gandhi, as well as opposition leaders, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Batti Vikramarka, and TPCC chief Mahesh Kumar Goud, are expected to join the Maha Dharma to show their support for the BC leaders. Moreover, on April 2 and 3, the BC Ministers and MLAs will convene with Union Ministers and representatives from vari-



ous political parties to go over the particulars of the caste survey carried out by Telangana and to advocate for their support of legislation aimed at raising the reservations for BCs by 42 percent. (NSS)

## WAVES Bazaar Expands Global Reach with Exclusive Showcases and Strategic Partnerships

WAVES Bazaar, the premier global e-marketplace for the Media & Entertainment (M&E) industry, is set to make a powerful impact in its inaugural edition, taking place from May 1-4, 2025, at Jio World Convention Centre, Mumbai. As a key component of WAVES 2025, the marketplace will bring together industry leaders from Film, TV, and AVGC (Animation, VFX, Gaming, and Comics) sectors, offering unparalleled opportunities for collaboration, content showcasing, and business expansion. With an ambitious vision to establish India as a global content hub, WAVES Bazaar will feature a range of exclusive segments, including the Viewing Room, Market Screenings, Buyer & Seller Meetings, and the dynamic Pitchroom, facilitating meaningful connections and driving cross-border partnerships. Viewing Room & Market Screenings: Unlocking New Content Horizons

WAVES Bazaar will host curated screenings of films, series, and AVGC projects, providing buyers, sales agents, and distributors with exclusive access to fresh and compelling content. The Viewing Room will offer a dedicated space for industry professionals to explore and acquire new titles, while the Market Screenings will present select projects to a global audience, creating opportunities for content distribution, licensing, and syndication deals. Buyer & Seller Meetings: Fostering Global Collaborations In collaboration with FICCI Frames Content Marketplace, WAVES Bazaar will offer a structured Buyer & Seller segment, enabling one-on-one meetings between key stakeholders, including producers, studios, broadcasters, and platforms. These targeted B2B interactions aim to accelerate deal-making, co-productions, and content acquisitions, fostering international collaborations and strengthening industry ties. Pitchroom: Where Ideas Meet Investors The Pitchroom



will provide a high-energy platform for creators, filmmakers, and content innovators to present their most promising concepts to investors, producers, and commissioning editors. Designed to spotlight emerging talent and innovative projects, the Pitchroom will serve as a launchpad for new content ventures and potential co-productions, making it a must-attend for industry decision-makers. Industry Leaders Endorse WAVES Bazaar

Prominent industry players have lauded WAVES Bazaar for its potential to transform content trade and partnerships. "We are excited to participate in WAVES Bazaar across multiple segments," said Mr. Murlidhar Chhatwani, Chief Business Officer, and Mr. Rajat Goswami, Head of Film Acquisitions & Syndication at Panorama Studios. "This marketplace provides an incredible platform for showcasing our projects, securing meaningful collaborations, and expanding our global reach in the entertainment industry."

## Maoists Demand Govt To Stop Alienation Of Hcu Lands To Corporate Companies

Hyderabad, March 31 (NSS): The Maoist Party has expressed its anger at the Congress government over the restrictive measures in OU and the land auction process in HCU. The Maoist Party's official spokesperson Jagan has released a fresh letter today by alleging that a scheme had been formulated to hand over the university lands to corporate companies with the help of a brutal authoritarian regime of the university. In its letter, the Maoist Party has flagged that democracy was in danger like never before due to the policies of today's rulers. "400 acres of land is being put up for sale without considering the legality provided by the Indian Constitution. Those who question these anti-people policies are being silenced," the party alleged. It has accused the State government of implementing dictatorial policies and destroying basic civil liberties and democracy.

"On the 13th of this month, the Congress government issued orders through the OU Registrar not to hold any agitations, dharnas or protests in the Osmania University. It warned that those who acted contrary to these orders would be severely punished. Prohibitory orders were imposed to suppress the struggles of the students in the universities. These actions taken by the government are unconstitutional and undemocratic. Such authoritarian actions would destroy the future of the country. The State government is taking such actions only to hand over the education sector to the corporates to privatise it," it alleged. The party stated that OU University students had been fighting against



the policies followed by the current governments since the Nizam and have actively participated in the socio-political and economic struggles of Telangana. The letter mentioned that the students were not limited to just problems but made many sacrifices to solve the basic problems of the people. It has been flagged that all the social, political and economic benefits enjoyed by many people today are the result of the fierce struggles of the students but today the exploitative ruling classes had set their main goal to protect the interests of the corrupt bourgeois classes.

It has demanded that the government imposed restrictions on Osmania University be lifted immediately. In this letter, the Maoist party has called on all the students to fight unitedly until these restrictions are lifted. (NSS)

## Vanguard To Establish First India Gcc In Hyderabad

Hyderabad, March 31 (NSS): Vanguard, one of the world most respected investment management companies, on Monday announced its decision to establish its first Global Capability Center (GCC) in Hyderabad. The senior delegation from the company, led by its CEO Salim Ramji and CIO and MD of IT division Nitin Tandon, Chief Human Resources Office John Couture and Principal, Head of GCC—Vanguard India, Venkatesh Natarajan called on Chief Minister Revanth Reddy at his residence here and held discussions on the expansion plans of the company. During the discussions, Vanguard representatives announced that their company would immediately look to hire engineers with a special focus on Artificial Intelligence, Data & amp, Analytics and Mobile Engineering at its Hyderabad facility. "We're excited to be adding talent who will focus



on AI, mobile, and cloud-based technologies that drive our business outcomes and deliver a world-class experience for our clients. Hyderabad was a great obvious choice for us because of its diverse talent pool, quality of living, an ecosystem of tech expertise and innovation mindset and the friendly policies of the Telangana state government," Vanguard CEO Salim Ramji said. Chief Min-

ister Revanth Reddy said, "I am delighted to welcome Vanguard to join the irresistible and unstoppable Hyderabad Rising vision. We are shaping Hyderabad into a GCC hub for the world across domains and Vanguard's endorsement will further strengthen our global positioning." Vanguard, which operates under a unique, investor-owned structure, manages global assets worth \$10 Trillion (approximately) and serves more than 50 million investors, will formally open its Hyderabad office later this year, and will employ 2,300 members over the next four years. Vanguard's Office in India is a significant milestone in its global expansion, which builds on a decade of partnership with third-party partners to enable it to directly access talent and increase the proportion of technology crew in its global workforce. (NSS)

## FGG urges CM to take urgent action to control food adulteration in city



supposed to check and control adulteration are not available in proportion to number of hotels and eateries.

He stated that the Telangana State has only one food testing lab at Nacharam which is unable to cope up with the large number of samples coming for test. Added to it, the lab has no proper facilities and required staff. As against the sanctioned staff of 78 posts, only 11 persons are working leaving 67 posts vacant. "We understand that the Government of India has sanctioned three more food testing labs at Nizamabad, Mahbubnagar and Warangal. For this purpose, funds are also released, but the State Government was not taking action to establish the three new labs utilizing the funds released by Government of India. "At present, there is one mobile food testing lab in the State. The Government of India has sanctioned five mobile food testing labs and funds are also released. So far, only five vehicles are purchased and testing equipment is yet to be purchased and fitted in the vans. In this way, the State Government is not able to utilize the funds released by Government of India and they are going to be lapsed. "Earlier, it was proposed to create a cell at Collectors' offices to receive complaints from citizens regarding food adulteration. This proposal remained on paper only". Therefore, the FGG urged the Chief Minister to take immediate steps to appoint more number of food safety officers, three more labs, and five mobile labs. It also requested to pull up the officials for not taking action and allowing the Central funds to lapse." (NSS)

Hyderabad, March 29 (NSS): President of Forum for Good Governance (FGG) M. Padmanabha Reddy on Saturday wrote a letter to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy about food adulteration affecting the health of people and requested the Chief Minister to take urgent action to control food adulteration. In his letter, the FGG president stated food adulteration has become a serious health hazard in the State, especially in Hyderabad right from '7' star hotels to road side eateries indulging in food adulteration. The number of hotels and road side eateries are existing in large number in Hyderabad and the food safety officers, who are

## No Change In Filthy Language Of Cm: Jagadish Reddy



bonus to the farmers. He said there was no answer from anywhere about how much grain is available. He said the officials had stopped answering the phones of the Opposition leaders. He questioned as to how much of crop was bought during the rainy season? He expressed anger that the changed promise of giving a bonus for the coarse variety of rice and said he would give a bonus only for fine grains. He said that it was not possible for the CM to live in the public sphere by spewing venom at KCR. He said that people were fearlessly enduring the Congress government's behavior even though they know that they would be in power for another three years. He also said that Revanth Reddy was saying that he would hang KCR and added that the days when the people would hang Revanth were very near. He advised that if the people rebel, they would know how they had fared if they look at the neighbouring countries. Jagadish Reddy suggested that CM Revanth Reddy should change his method and language and implement the promises made to the farmers. He demanded that the CM should answer as to how fine variety of paddy he bought last year and how much bonus he gave while claiming that No reviews have been done so far to purchase Rabi season's paddy. He said that farmers would not cultivate their fields if they were not given water. He also said that thousands of acres had been lost because the farmers were not given water and added that if they were given water for a short time, thousands of acres would be harvested. He demanded that water be given to the last acre of land. He wanted an immediate announcement on the purchase of paddy by the state government.

Jagadish Reddy reminded that 9 lakh cusecs of water was released from Medigadda through the Kaleshwaram project. He said that the officials were saying that the Kannepalli pump house was fine but added that the government does not have the means to run it. He alleged that NDSA was preventing water from coming to Kaleshwaram with an excuse. He was angry that the state government here has not got the means when AP CM Chandrababu is taking water by trampling on the rules. He called upon the farmers to wake up. He called for another movement for the continuation of the Kaleshwaram project. (NSS)

## 12 sex workers apprehended at Bhagyanagar Bus Stop



W& CSW, Cyberabad. As a result of the operation, 12 sex workers were apprehended and cases were registered at Kukatpally, KPHB, Gachibowli Police Stations, under the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956. The apprehended individuals were bound over by DCP, W& CSW, Cyberabad to ensure good behaviour. Earlier, a similar operation was conducted by the same special teams, leading to the arrest of 16 individuals. Cases were registered at the concerned police stations. These individuals were also bound over by DCP, W& CSW, Cyberabad for good behaviour and subsequently released with notices issued under Section 35 of the BNSS Act.

The Cyberabad Police was strictly enforcing laws against prostitution and related activities. No form of prostitution is encouraged or tolerated within our jurisdiction. Regular operations are conducted to prevent and eliminate such illegal activities, ensuring the safety and security of all citizens. (NSS)



Hyderabad, March 29 (NSS): In an operation conducted at Bhagyanagar Bus Stop under the KPHB Metro Station, Kukatpally and Madhapur areas on the night of March 28, 2025. It was conducted by Anti-Human Trafficking Units (AHTU), Cyberabad, under the supervision of DCP,

## HCU land auction should be stopped immediately

"The decision to sell the land should be withdrawn" BRS senior leader Ravinder Yadav said. Serilingampalli Indian Chronicle BRS senior leader Ravinder Yadav expressed his anger over the Congress government's behavior in Telangana. He was furious that conspiracies were being hatched to put government lands up for sale. He flagged that it was unfair to see HCU lands being sold.

He said that it was outrageous to want to make money by illegally selling university lands. He said that there was a risk of losing biodiversity in the HCU University area with the government's decision. He demanded that the process of auctioning 400 acres of land be stopped immediately. Otherwise, Ravinder Yadav warned that the struggle would be intensified.

## Bandi Sanjay Condemns Attack On Hcu Students



Hyderabad, March 31 (NSS): Union Minister Bandi Sanjay today responded to the students' agitation at Hyderabad Central University. He condemned the actions against the students by the State police. He said lathi-charge on the students was brutal. Speaking to the mediapersons on Monday, the Union Minister said there was no person in Telangana society, who was not hurt by the scenes in the media regarding the HCU lands issue and the charge over the students. He said the inhumane detention of the students by the police was brutal. He also said a terrifying atmosphere had been created in HCU. He also said it was painful to see the videos of girls being dragged away by the police. He expressed anger that the controversial lands were being levelled with JCBs at night like thieves. He questioned with what authority the police were going to HCU? He also

said it was brutal to stop and arrest the students as they do not want to sell the university lands. He said everyone was shocked after seeing those videos. He made comments by saying that they will sell the 400 acres of the university's land and rule the State. He criticized the Congress government for not being in a position to govern the Telangana State if the HCU lands were not sold. He was furious that the State government was in a position to sell the HCU lands. He said the Congress government was not in a position to even keep a yard for future generations. He said all the lands in the State would be sold. He claimed that not only ABVP activists were arrested, but they were also beaten up in the police station. He alleged that the Congress party was more anarchic than the BRS party. He demanded that the sale of the HCU lands be stopped immediately. He wanted action to be taken against the police who lathi-charged the students. He questioned as to why the Education Commission chairman and members did not respond if the HCU lands were being sold. He said all of them were also supporting the sale of the HCU lands. He made it clear that the BJP would provide full support to the students' agitations. Union Minister said the people do not need a government that rules the State by selling off its lands. BJP MP Etela Rajender said Hyderabad Central University was the capital of this State. He was angry that the Revanth government was thinking of selling HCU lands to pay off debts. He said the days were passing when there is no space for cemeteries and parks. He questioned as to why Revanth Reddy is taking such evil decisions. He said there was no progress except for retrograde decisions. He said that he strongly condemned the police attack on HCU students. (NSS)

## CPM warns of mass movement if govt failed to fulfil promises

Hyderabad, March 29 (NSS): CPI(M) state secretary John Wesley has warned the state government that a public movement was inevitable if the Congress party does not implement the promises made in the assembly elections. He demanded that a clear policy be announced on the implementation of the six guarantees. John Wesley spoke at a press conference organized at the CPI(M) state office MB Bhavan at RTC Crossroads in Hyderabad on Saturday along with the party central committee member G Nagaiah and state secretary member T Jyothi. Speaking on the occasion, he said that the 11-day assembly sessions ended without a comprehensive discussion on budget allocations. He explained that the government had not announced a clear policy on how the six guarantees would be implemented and how funds would be allocated. He said that the question and answer sessions in the assembly were shortened and public issues were not mentioned much even during Zero Hour. He criticized that although the Congress had promised to allocate 15 percent of funds to the education sector in its election manifesto, only 7.57 percent of the budget was allocated to the education sector. He claimed that the government was taking steps to weaken the public education sector. He said that the government was providing opportunities for students to go to private schools. He explained that if a low budget is allocated and proper infrastructure is not provided, the students would not join government schools, which will lead to their closure.

Wondering as to When will women be given Rs. 2,500,



He demanded that the government tell him when and how it will be given? . He said that the agricultural workers would be given Rs. 12,000 per year but there is no mention of its implementation. He also said that the Congress had promised to give Rs. 12 lakh each to Dalits and tribals demanded that the Chevella SC and ST declaration be implemented. Stating that the Kamareddy declaration announced that Rs. 20 thousand crore would be allocated to BCs, he criticized that only Rs. 11,400 crore was allocated in the budget. He said that no announcement was made about job creation and added that there was no discussion in the Assembly about unemployment allowance. He explained that there were 30 lakh poor people without houses in the state and added government has allocated funds in the budget to build houses for 4.50 lakh people. (NSS)

## Special prayers in 'Oglapur Dargah' in honor of Ramjan..



"Damera / Indian Chronicle: "Revuri Prakash Reddy held special prayers at the Oglapur Dargah on the Ramjan mountain at the Damera Mandal Oglapur. Eid Mubarak then embraced one another. All the Muslim brothers and sisters said that the Ramjan festival celebrations celebrated on the festival and to be blessed with holy prayers. The Ramjan festival is a guide for humans and the advice of the truth.



The Muslim brothers celebrate the Ramjan Mountain and inspire communalism. All religions are the only one, and we need to be brotherly sense. The people of the state and the people of Parakala are always urged to have Allah blessings. He said the Congress would support the Muslim minorities. He said that the Congress government is putting a big step to protect religious harmony.

## All set for launch of free fine rice distribution scheme: Uttam

Hyderabad, March 29 (NSS): Elaborate arrangements have been made in Huzurnagar for the grand launch of the Telangana government's ambitious free fine rice distribution scheme, set to be formally inaugurated by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on the auspicious occasion of Ugadi on Sunday. Irrigation & Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy personally reviewed the preparations on Saturday at the Rajiv Gandhi Grounds in Huzurnagar, which will serve as the central venue for the launch. He inspected the stage, public arrangements, and logistical readiness for the mega public meeting that will follow the formal inauguration. Ahead of the launch, the Minister undertook a whirlwind tour of the Huzurnagar and Kodad constituencies, holding a series of coordination meetings with Congress leaders and cadres. The objective was to ensure seamless execution of the event and mobilise public participation to mark what he described as a "historic occasion." He said the scheme, aimed at ensuring food security for nearly 84% of the State's population, marks a historic shift in public welfare and is being introduced for the first time in the country. Speaking during the review meetings, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the launch of the fine rice scheme was not just a government programme but a revolutionary welfare initiative that would have far-reaching impacts on the lives of the poor and middle-class families. He said the Congress government in Telangana had taken up the imple-



mentation of this scheme with strong political will and administrative commitment. He called upon Congress workers and local leaders to make every household aware of the benefits of the scheme and ensure that every eligible beneficiary participates in the launch event. "Every citizen should feel they are part of this historic moment," he said. At present, Telangana has 89.73 lakh white ration cards covering 2.8 crore people, and following the government's announcement to issue cards to all eligible families, 30 lakh new applications have been received. With the inclusion of new beneficiaries, the total number is expected to rise to 3.10 crore. He also informed that the new ration cards will be issued shortly. While white cards will retain the tricolour design, Above Poverty Line (APL) cards will be issued in green. (NSS)

## Welfare of Muslims is the aim of alliance government: MLA Arani Srinivasulu



March 31, (Indian Chronicle) Tirupati district correspondent "Mla Arani Srinivasulu said that the NDA government is committed to the welfare of Muslims. He said he would take up the issue of Idgah plains with CM Chandrababu Naidu and Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan and work towards resolving it. Mla Arani Srinivasulu along with his Muslim brothers participated in the Ramzan prayers held at the Idgah ground on Monday. After the prayers, MLA Arani Srinivasulu said that the month of Ramzan is special for Muslims as it is the month when the Holy Quran was incarnated. He said that the month of Ramzan is a combination of discipline, generosity and devotion. He said that after coming to power, the NDA government has been providing Rs 5,000 and Rs 10,000 per month to imams and majans. He also said that rs 5,000 is being given for the maintenance of mosques. He alleged that the previous gov-

ernment treated Muslims as a vote bank. He said he would do his bit to resolve the Idgah plain dispute. He said chief minister Chandrababu Naidu and deputy chief minister Pawan Kalyan are likely to take up with Prime Minister Modi the amendments suggested by muslim elders to the Waqf Bill to be brought by the Union Government. Former MLA Sugunamma, State Yadava Sangha Corporation Chairman Narasimha Yadav, TDP state executive secretaries Mabu Devanarayana Reddy and Dr Koduru Balasubramanya, Deputy Mayors Mudra Narayana, R C Munikrishna, Corporators SK Babu, Varikuntla Narayana, Idgah Committee Chairman SMD Rafi, Mahbub Basha, Mahesh Yadav, Munisekhar Rayal, Jana Sena leaders Raja Reddy, Nainar Srinivas, Jeeva Kona Sudha, Babji, Arcot Krishna Prasad, Amudala Venkatesh, Prabhakar Reddy and others participated

## Donating blood is equivalent to donating life: CI Sunil Kumar



"A blood donation camp was organized on Monday under the aegis of Padmavathi Arya Vaishya Yuva Kiranas, an affiliate of Sri Padmavathi Arya Vaishya Nithya Annadana Samaja Seva Samiti in Tiruchanur. Sunil Kumar was the chief guest. On this occasion, C.I. "In today's society, I appreciate the youth coming forward and setting up such a blood donation camp. Especially by donating blood, we will save another man's life," he said. He also urged everyone to undergo timely medical check-ups, identify health issues

ahead of them and take appropriate treatment and lead a completely healthy life. Everyone is advised to take care of their health and inculcate good eating habits, exercise regularly and do yoga meditation as the pressure is over. Sri Padmavathi Arya Vaishya Nithya Annadana Samaja Seva Samiti President Satish, Treasurer Ravichandra Gupta, Secretary Satish Kumar, Yuva Kiranulu President Kalyan Secretary Sairam Treasurer Anudeep, Aparna, Indira, Kumari, Reddamma and others from the women's wing were present

## Proposes new SWM bylaws: BMC plans user fee for waste management; spitting, littering on roads to get costlier

GNS News Agency, March 31

The Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) has proposed to introduce user fee for its services in waste management and increase penalties for offences like littering and spitting at public spaces. The proposal comes in the revision of its Solid Waste Management (SWM) bylaws — the first such revision in 19 years. The draft of the new policy will be made available on the BMC's website between April 1 and May 31, 2025. During this period, residents can send their suggestions and objections following which a public hearing will be called. The move to introduce SWM user fee was announced by Municipal Commissioner Bhushan Gagrani during the civic body's budget presented in February. The SWM bylaws, which came into existence in 2006, are a set of regulations under which SWM operations are carried out in Mumbai. "The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report of the government has mandated collection of user fee for all urban local bodies in Mumbai. Almost all the major civic bodies including Bengaluru, Pune and Kolkata had implemented it already. Therefore, as part of the new bylaws, we have proposed an introduction of these charges," Deputy Municipal Commissioner (SWM) Kiran Dighavkar told the Indian Express. He also said that the user fee charges could be incorporated with the property tax bills in order to facilitate ease of payment for residents. Meanwhile, according to the proposed guidelines, the BMC has increased the penalty of littering and spitting on roads to Rs 500 and Rs 250 from Rs 200. As per the proposal, Rs 300 will be fined from people bathing at public spaces, while the current penalty is Rs 100. Urinating and defecating at open will invite a penalty of Rs 500, compared to the existing fine of Rs 100.

The BMC has also proposed a penalty of Rs 200 on individual waste generators and Rs 1,000 on bulk waste generators (BWS) for delivering non-segregated waste. Earlier this week, the BMC had proposed to hike the penalty of garbage burning from Rs 100 to Rs 1,000. In the



proposed guidelines, the authorities maintained that commercial properties found burning waste at public spaces will be charged Rs 10,000 as penalty. Penalty for littering and defecation of pets at public spaces have also been revised to Rs 1,000 from Rs 500. The BMC has also proposed a penalty of Rs 20,000 for unauthorised dumping of constructing debris and Rs 25,000 for transporting construction debris without taking approval from authorities.

With the introduction of SWM charges, the authorities aim to generate an additional revenue of Rs 687 crore annually from residential units alone. According to the proposed structure, residential units that have a built up area less than 50 square meters will be charged Rs 100 per month, units having an area between 50 square meters and 300 square meters will be charged Rs 500, while any residential unit above 500 square meters will have to pay Rs 1,000 every month. Hotels and restaurants will be levied a monthly fee between Rs 1,500 and Rs 7,500 depending on their categorisation while clinics and dispensaries will be charged between Rs 2,000 and Rs 5,000 depending on their bed capacity. Commercial establishments like small shops will have to pay Rs 500, while banquets and public halls will have to pay charges between Rs 5,000 and Rs 7,500 depending on their capacity."

## Greetings on the occasion of Ugadi festival

"Miyapur General Secretary Uday Kiran""Miyapur On the occasion of the Ugadi festival, Serilingampally constituency congress youth leader and Miyapur General Secretary Yalamanchi Uday Kiran, along with his team, met with Serilingampally Constituency Congress Party In-charge V. Jagadishwar Goud to extend their greetings on the occasion of Ugadi festival. "Team members Sharath, Vinod, Vamshi, Kamineni Vasu, Praveen, Nagasai, Simhachalam, Chari, Abhiram, and others participated in this program.



## BC LEADERS AND DELIGATES GOING TO DILHI



"In the Medak district BC leaders and delegates Monday going to dilhi on the specil train from cherlapally railway station because of theirre demanded 42 percent reservation on the upcoming elactions, the congress government has to be anounced 42 percent reservation on

the up coming elaction that will be passed parliament members that is the reason bc deligates leaders went to dilhi in this program congress pcc state member palle ramchander goud, ex mptc medak ramesh, bc wise president chinnaling mallikarjun goud, narender goud, yadagiri yadav, bonla srinivas, sudhakar, pasuloty motilala attended.

## Award-winning short film by medical students puts forward often forgotten stories from hospitals

GNS News Agency, March 31

'The Staircase: A Journey of Emotions' short filmPart of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) Pune film festival, the short film has also bagged several awards. Staircases are present in nearly every part of our lives, quietly witnessing many moments and memories. This particular staircase guides one through a day in a hospital, a place that's more than just its doctors and patients. It's a space full of untold stories that unfold daily and in the short film, The Staircase: A Journey of Emotions, students of Smt Kashibai Navale Medical College and General Hospital have brought a few of them which are often overlooked or forgotten. Part of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) Pune film festival, the short film has also bagged several awards.

Dr Ajay Patil, Forensic Medicine and Toxicology department head, who directed the 16-minute short film, said The Staircase is a poignant slice-of-life story that seeks to capture the essence of time. "Through this staircase, you'll discover the hidden lives and emotions of those within the hospital—stories often overlooked or forgotten," he said.

The story was conceptualised and created by a medical college student Faraj Shaikh and according to Dr Patil they saw a great potential in it to express different sides and stories of people associated with the medical field. "Be it a doctor or a patient, a paramedic staff or a watchman, everyone has their own story... and this storyline could provide light on each one of them," Dr Sagar Patil, a resident doctor at the college who acted and co-directed the film along with Dr Malhar Thorat. The Staircase: A Journey of Emotions The Staircase: A Journey of Emotions

"This short film was made entirely by the students of the college. From scripting, all the way to the music and direction or even sweeping the sets, medical students and staff did everything," Dr Sagar Patil said while adding that the motivation behind all this was Dr Ajay Patil's vision to create an ecosystem and culture of short films in the college. "The college director Dr A V Bhore and dean Dr K B Patil helped and supported the project which received five international awards," Dr Sagar Patil added. Among the stories includes that of a man, Prashant, who lost his wife and



children due to COVID in the hospital during the pandemic. "Since then, Prashant felt he had lost everything. He became an alcoholic and started going to the hospital where he lost his dear ones, talking to the Staircase. It was right in front of the staircase where Prashant's wife and children's bodies were kept. The film reflects upon how the staircases observe everything around them, yet remain silent," Dr Patil said.

Yet another tale in the film is woven around Shekhar, a businessman who earned a lot of money, but went through a lot of personal tragedies. After losing his wife, his life revolves around his daughter who also dies tragically in the hospital. He gets psychologically disturbed when he hears another patient sharing the news of a newborn daughter to someone over a phone call. "Here again the staircase is a witness to these events," Dr Ajay Patil who also pursued his passion for drama, theatre and films by completing two courses from Film and Television Institute of India and worked with noted actor and director Dr Mohan Agashe. The five international awards won by the film are best short-film winner attainment award at Dreamz Catcher International Film Festival 2024, second best director award at Shunyatam International Film Festival 2024, best inspirational film award at Shunyatam International Film Festival 2024 and was among the official selection at International Kolkata Short-film festival 2024 and Abhijaat Short film festival 2024. IMA - Pune felicitated the entire team at an event held on March 30.

## Hotter-than-usual summer ahead as IMD warns of more heatwave days in many States

GNS News Agency, March 31

New Delhi: India is expected to experience hotter-than-usual temperatures from April to June, with more heatwave days in central and eastern India and the northwestern plains, the IMD said on Monday.

Most parts of the country will see higher-than-normal maximum temperatures, except for some areas in western and eastern India where the temperatures are expected to be normal. Minimum temperatures will also be above normal in most regions, India Meteorological Department (IMD) chief Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said in an online press conference. "From April to June, most parts of north and east India, central India, and the plains of northwest India are expected to experience two to four more heatwave days than normal," he said. Usually, India records four to seven heatwave days from April to June.

An IMD official had earlier said northwest India might face double the number of heatwave days during the summer. The region normally experiences five to six heatwave days during the season. States likely to see above-

normal heatwave days include Rajasthan, Gujarat, Haryana, Punjab, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and the northern parts of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu.

In April, most parts of India will likely witness higher-than-usual maximum temperatures. However, some areas in the extreme southern and the northwestern regions may experience normal temperatures. Minimum temperatures will be higher than usual across most of the country, except for a few places in the northwest and the northeast where temperatures may be normal or slightly below normal, Mohapatra said. Experts have warned that India should prepare for a peak electricity demand growth of 9 to 10 per cent this summer season, with the country expected to experience a higher number of heatwave days. Last year, the all-India peak electricity demand crossed 250 gigawatts (GW) on May 30 — 6.3 per cent higher than projections. Climate change-induced heat stress is one of the key factors driving electricity demand.

## Cabinet berth aspirants make a beeline to New Delhi, ignore State leadership

GNS News Agency, March 31

HYDERABAD: As the Congress high is making it explicit that it has the final say in the Telangana political affairs, aspirants of cabinet berths and other posts are making a beeline to New Delhi. By nominating the actor-turned-politician Vijayashanthi as a member of the Legislative Council, the high command has sent a clear and unmistakable signal that it calls the shots and definitely not the State leadership. The candidature of Vijayashanthi was never in the reckoning and the state leaders floated several names for nomination to the council, but the high command took the winds out of sails of many leaders by announcing the Vijayashanthi as a candidate for the MLC polls. Now, with the Cabinet expansion being imminent after Ugadi festival, a few aspirants have landed in New Delhi and are meeting the AICC leaders, as they seem to have realised that State leadership's opinions were definitely sought but ultimately it is the high command, which takes the final decision. Accordingly, the leaders are now sidelining the State leadership and intensifying their lobbying in New Delhi.

Already, Narsampeta MLA Donthi Madhava Reddy met AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge and AICC Telangana incharge Meenakshi Natarajan in the national capital. Pictures of the MLA meeting the AICC leaders are already going

viral on different social media platforms. Donthi Madhava Reddy has been aspiring for Cabinet berth since long. Despite being active in erstwhile Warangal Congress unit affairs, he had skipped Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's programmes in the district in the past, reflecting the state of affairs. His supporters are backing his candidature for cabinet berth irrespective of the fact that PRRD Minister D Anasuya and Forest Minister Konda Surekha are also from Warangal. There are two Ministers from Nalgonda. A senior leader is already claiming that cabinet berth has been confirmed to him, besides he declared the portfolio as well. If there can be three Ministers from Nalgonda, why cannot there be three from Warangal, Donthi Madhava Reddy's supporters argue. Not just Narsampeta MLA, a few others, including Ibrahimpatnam MLA Malreddy Rangareddy, Devarkonda MLA Balu Naik, MLC Shankar Naik and few others flew to New Delhi, reports said. There are six vacancies in the cabinet. Apart from cabinet expansion, there is buzz in Gandhi Bhavan that there could be reshuffle of portfolios as well. Sensing opportunities, aspirants are leaving no stone unturned to impress the high command and are lobbying hard. Amidst the lobbying, the leaders have made a few things evident that henceforth they would bypass the State leadership and maintain a direct relation with high command to get their issues resolved.

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## Kunal Kamra case: Madras High Court grants interim anticipatory bail to comedian in Eknath Shinde controversy row

GNS News Agency, March 28

The Madras High Court on Friday (March 28, 2025) granted interim protection from arrest to popular stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra (36) in a case booked against him by the Khar police in Mumbai for having allegedly made slanderous comments against Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde in his latest comedy show titled 'Naya Bharat'. Justice Sunder Mohan ordered notice, returnable by April 7, to the Khar police in Mumbai on the comedian's main plea for grant of inter-State anticipatory bail until he could approach the Bombay High Court for obtaining regular bail. In the meantime, the judge granted interim anticipatory bail so that the comedian does not get arrested. For the purpose of obtaining the interim relief, the petitioner was directed to execute a bond, along with two sureties, to the satisfaction of the judicial magistrate at Vanur in Villupuram district since it was reported that he had shifted his residence from Mumbai to Villupuram district in Tamil Nadu in 2021.

The relief was granted after hearing the petitioner's counsel V. Suresh, assisted by S. Tanvi, who claimed that his client had not named anyone, much less Mr. Shinde in the comedy show, and Government Advocate (criminal side) S. Santhosh representing the Auroville police in Villupuram district. In his petition, Mr. Kamra had said that though he was born in Mumbai, he shifted his residence to Villupuram district in Tamil Nadu in February 2021 because he was desirous of leading a quiet life in a rural area. He, however, travels widely for performing his shows in different venues. His latest show titled 'Naya Bharat' was performed in Mumbai in February this year and the video was uploaded on his YouTube channel on February 23. A month later, a group claiming to be political activists vandalised the venue where the show was performed at Khar in Mumbai. On the same day (March 23, 2025), the MLA lodged a police complaint accusing the petitioner of having defamed Mr. Shinde by making slanderous comments about



the latter's conduct. "It is pertinent to mention here that the disputed songs/poem narrated by the petitioner does not name anyone, leave alone the Deputy Chief Minister of Maharashtra," yet the police promptly registered a First Information Report (FIR) against the comedian and summoned him for inquiry on March 23, 2025. The summons were served upon the petitioner's parents in Mumbai. On coming to know about it, the petitioner made a request to the Khar police to permit him to appear for inquiry through video conferencing and also sought two weeks to appear before the investigating officer concerned. In response, the police intimidated him that he could appear on March 30, but there was no clarification as to whether he could appear through video call. In the meantime, the petitioner complained to have received a barrage of death threats from politicians as well as through anonymous phone calls. Listing out the threats he had received, the petitioner feared people might cause harm to either to him or his loved ones. He also feared the Mumbai police might arrest him and subject him to physical torture if he had to wait until the Bombay High Court grants him anticipatory bail. Further, highlighting that the Bombay High Court would be on leave for a considerable number of days in the first three weeks of April, the petitioner urged the Madras High Court to grant him inter-State anticipatory bail until he could obtain regular anticipatory bail from the Bombay High Court.

Malla Reddy assured his support and announced plans to organise a large-scale seminar for civil service aspirants in June on the varsity campus. He also emphasised the need for students to aspire for prestigious roles like IAS and IPS, beyond the conventional career paths in software and multinational companies.

Extending his best wishes to the academy, Malla Reddy lauded its commitment to guiding civil services aspirants. Pradeep felicitated the MLA for his encouragement and support toward educational initiatives. Malla Reddy Institutions Director of Operations Praveen Reddy was also present during the meeting.

## Enrollment crisis hits Telangana public schools



GNS News Agency, March 31

Hyderabad: The Telangana government-run schools are facing an enrollment crisis with over three lakh slump in admissions during the academic year 2024-25. The huge drop in admissions is attributed to growing dissatisfaction with quality of education and infrastructure extended in government run schools, forcing parents to enroll their wards in private schools. The official statistics indicate that enrollment of students in government-run schools has been consistently decreasing. While it was 28,80,09 in the academic year 2022-23, it dropped to 26,36,630 in 2023-24 and 25,13,435 in the current academic year, which is 3,67,374 less admissions when compared to 2022-23. On the other hand, the private schools' admissions went up from 30,17,877 in 2022-23 to 34,05,430 in 2023-24 to 37,01,814 in 2024-25. This enrollment drop in Telangana public schools and increase in private schools' reflect a clear sign of faith by parents in private institutions.

Lack of one teacher for one class, inadequate infrastructure, insufficient resources and absence of supervision on teachers and schools are among other key factors that are driving parents to enroll their wards in private schools. One of the major factors is the absence of one teacher for one class. In several government primary

schools, one and two teachers are deputed for a strength of 30 and 60 students, while private schools ensure one teacher for one class.

We have been asking the government to merge schools with less enrollment and allot one teacher for one class. The State does not require 18,000 primary schools but 10,000 will suffice. Pre-primary sections must be started in government primary schools, which will help increase enrollment," says Chava Ravi, president, Telangana State United Teachers Federation. Further, the academics in the government-run schools are taking a beating due to deviation from the academic calendar and additional responsibilities handed over to the teachers, which is not the case with the private schools. "There is a need to increase actual teaching days. The formative assessment examinations have to be reduced, as they take the majority of the working days. This will enhance classroom teaching and thereby learning among students, creating confidence among parents," said P Raja Bhanu Chandra Prakash, headmaster ZPHS Pachunur.

Absence of supervision on the schools has also contributed to decline admissions. Except for five districts, the remaining districts do not have a regular District Education Officer (DEO), while the deputy DEO and Mandal Educational Officer (MEO) posts have not been filled up for the last several years. "The government must fill up the vacancies to MEO, Deputy DEO and DEO posts to improve monitoring schools and strengthen the public education system," Ravi said. As for the infrastructure, the past BRS government had initiated the 'Mana Ooru-Mana Badi', a flagship programme to strengthen and create facilities in 26,072 government and local body schools under 12 components in a phased manner. However, the programme was shelved by the present administration. Though the government had constituted the Amma Adarsha Patashala Committee to improve infrastructure in the schools, the works do not show much positive signs.

## Putin suggests putting Ukraine under UN sponsored external governance, boasts battlefield gains

GNS News Agency, March 31

Russian President Vladimir Putin proposed on Friday (March 28, 2025) to put Ukraine under external governance under the U.N. aegis as part of efforts to reach a peaceful settlement, a blustery statement that reflected the Kremlin leader's determination to achieve his war goals. Speaking to the crew of a Russian nuclear submarine in televised remarks broadcast early on Friday (March 28, 2025), Mr. Putin reaffirmed his claim that Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, whose term expired last year, lacks the legitimacy to sign a peace deal. Under Ukraine's constitution it is illegal for the country to hold national elections while it's under martial law. Mr. Putin claimed that any agreement that is signed with the current Ukrainian government could be challenged by its successors and said new elections could be held under external governance. "Under the auspices of the United Nations, with the United States, even with European countries, and, of course, with our partners and friends, we could discuss the possibility of introduction of temporary governance in Ukraine," Putin said, adding that it would allow the country to "hold democratic elections, to bring to power a viable government that enjoys the trust of the people, and then begin negotiations with them on a peace treaty." He added that such external governance is just "one of the options," without elaborating. Mr. Putin's remarks came hours after the conclusion of a summit hosted by French President Emmanuel Macron that considered plans to deploy troops to Ukraine to cement an eventual peace deal. Macron said "several" other nations want to be part of the force alongside France and Britain. Russia has warned it wouldn't accept any troops from NATO members as part of a prospective peacekeeping force. Mr. Macron and other participants of the Paris summit on Thursday accused Russia of only pretending to want a negotiated settlement.

"They are playing games and they're playing for time," said U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer. "We can't let them drag this out while they continue prosecuting their illegal invasion." Russia and Ukraine have agreed to a tentative U.S.-brokered deal to pause strikes on energy infrastructure, but quickly accused each other of violations, underscoring the challenges to negotiating a broader peace. Russia launched 163 strike and decoy drones at Ukraine late Thursday, according to the Ukrainian air force, which said that 89 of them were downed and 51 more jammed. The drones damaged multiple residential buildings and injured a 19-year-old in Zaporizhzhia, regional head Ivan Fedorov said. In Poltava, drones damaged warehouses, administrative building, and a high-voltage transformer, according to regional head Volodymyr Kohut. Damage to buildings and infrastructure facilities was also reported by the authorities in the Odesa, Kharkiv, Dnipro and Mykolaiv regions. Ukraine's state-run gas company, Naftogaz, said



Friday that its facilities came under Russian fire without specifying its time and location. The Russian Defense Ministry said that Ukrainian forces struck a gas metering station in Sudzha in the Kursk region with U.S.-made HIMARS rockets, completely destroying the facility. It said another Ukrainian strike on an energy facility in Russia's Bryansk region led to a power cutoff, and added that air defenses downed 19 Ukrainian drones that attempted to strike an oil refinery in Saratov.

The ministry charged that the continuing strikes show that Kyiv's pledge of adherence to a U.S.-proposed halt on strikes on energy facilities was just "another ruse by Zelenskyy to prevent the collapse of Ukrainian defenses and to restore military potential with the help of European allies." While Ukraine has agreed to a full, 30-day ceasefire that Trump has proposed, Putin has made a complete ceasefire conditional on a halt of arms supplies to Kyiv and a suspension of Ukraine's military mobilization — demands rejected by Ukraine and its Western allies. Russian troops have made slow but steady gains in several sectors of the more than 1,000-kilometer (over 620-mile) frontline, and Zelenskyy warned Thursday that Russia was trying to drag out talks in preparation for bigger offensives. Mr. Putin declared in overnight remarks that the Russian troops have "gained steam" and "are holding strategic initiative all along the line of contact." He noted that Russia is open to a peaceful settlement, but emphasized the need to "remove root causes that led to the current situation."

"We certainly need to ensure Russia's security for a long historic perspective," he said. Mr. Putin has demanded that Kyiv withdraw its forces from the four regions Moscow has partially seized. He also wants Ukraine to renounce joining NATO, sharply cut its army and legally protect Russian language and culture to keep the country in Moscow's orbit. Russian officials also have said that any prospective peace deal should involve unfreezing Russian assets in the West and lifting other U.S. and European Union sanctions. The Trump administration has said it would consider potential sanctions relief.

## Challenges of three-language policy: Regional variations, parental strain, and educational disparities

While a political war over words over the three-language formula is being fought, it may be time to review how the three-language policy is being implemented on the ground. Learning the third language has posed significant logistical challenges. Further, Hindi-speaking states have been lukewarm towards the three-language policy, with most choosing Sanskrit rather than any regional language. For example, in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Rajasthan, the first language is English, the second is Hindi, and Sanskrit is the third language. In contrast, Madhya Pradesh continues to follow a two-language policy, with English as the first language and Hindi as the second. In Jharkhand, the third language is primarily Sanskrit, though some schools also offer regional languages such as Santhali. Similarly, in Chhattisgarh, Sanskrit is predominantly offered alongside a regional language such as Gondi. The day-to-day challenges that parents and children face due to the three-language policy are varied and significant. Ms. Sanchita, a parent from Haryana, recounts her difficulties in finding a CBSE school in Uttar Pradesh that offered Spanish as a third language, similar to what her son had studied in his previous school. "When moving, these decisions take a toll on you. Some schools only offered Sanskrit and German, while others provided Sanskrit and French as options," she says. Her son's transition to a new school in the eighth standard complicated the situation further. However, she acknowledges that the new school follows the National Curriculum Framework and starts teaching the third language only after class

5, providing a structured approach to language acquisition. Ms. Padma, who moved from Bengaluru to Coimbatore, describes the challenges her son faced in adjusting to Tamil as his third language. In Bengaluru, her son had studied Kannada as his third language, and in Coimbatore, he was required to learn Tamil. Despite the difficulty, Padma notes that her son only has to complete worksheets and is not evaluated on the language until class 5. "The transition was tough for him, but it was made easier by the fact that there is no formal evaluation until later," she says. In a similar vein, Ms. Peusha, a parent from Haryana, faces a dilemma with her child's language options. "My child's school offers German, Sanskrit, and Urdu in class 6. It's a difficult decision because I'm unsure how these languages will impact my child's career or life prospects," she explains. Ms. Anamika Sood, Principal of Greater Valley School in Greater Noida, shares that their school provides a comprehensive and engaging language curriculum in line with CBSE guidelines. "From Class IV to Class VIII, students are required to study three languages: English and Hindi as mandatory subjects, with the option to choose between Sanskrit, French, or German as their third language," she explains. To ensure effective learning, each language programme is led by a dedicated, trained facilitator with specialized knowledge. The curriculum follows level-wise textbooks for progressive learning, while the school library offers an extensive collection of supplementary resources to further enhance students' language skills









## Income Tax Department issues notices to taxpayers over non deduction of TDS on rent of 50,000 or more per month



eral taxpayers across the country, he said. "Where you are a tenant of a particular house property and you are paying a rent of ₹50,000 or more, the Income Tax Act mandates that as a tenant you need to deduct TDS of 2% (effective from October 2024 earlier it was 5%) on the rent you are paying to the landlord. So the onus to deduct the TDS is on the tenant. The tenant has to deduct the TDS and remit it to the Income Tax Department and pay the balance to the landlord," Mr. Abhishek said. "If the tenant has failed to do so, the person is considered as an assessee in default. Then you are subject to a levy of certain interest, fines and penalties by the Income Tax Department which may vary from 1-1.5% per month depending on the individual cases and time of the default," he said.

"There is one exemption to this. If the landlord has filed its Income Tax return and shown the rental income and if has paid the taxes duly calculated on the same and if you are able to furnish the information to the assessing officer, you will not be considered as assessee in default and need not pay any interest or penalty," Mr. Abhishek said. "However, some landlords may not be comfortable sharing certain confidential/private documents. Therefore, it is advisable that all assessee properly deduct and remit the TDS in a timely manner to comply with the law and to avoid being an assessee in default," he said.

as an issue of lack of constitutional morality in the central government's conduct. The BJP government brought a law and got it passed from the parliament to usurp significant powers from the (AAP) government of Delhi after the latter won a prolonged battle in the Supreme Court. Did this turning of tables put a significant squeeze on the governing abilities of the AAP government? It's difficult to argue that it would not have. Even in states where state governments still have justified executive control, governors have made it a habit to delay signing bills. Is this not a perversion of federalism and democracy itself in the country?

The second is a more vexed issue vis-à-vis fiscal federalism. A lot of central government funding to states is now from the centrally sponsored scheme (CSS) route. While this trend started before Narendra Modi came to power, it has continued to gain momentum, not just in terms of funds but also its political weaponization. More and more CSS money now comes with strict conditionalities not just in terms of scheme design but also political attribution in favour of the Prime Minister. Where does this leave state governments which are ruled by parties opposed to the BJP? Many of them have held back on implementing these schemes, thereby either losing money from the Centre or taking additional fiscal commitments. Tamil Nadu announcing that it will not take central funds for school education to protest against the three-language formula is the latest example.

The third question follows from the first two. The Centre squeezing states is not something which is happening for the first time in the country. Things were not very different when the Congress enjoyed political dominance at the national level and harassed governments ruled by its opponents in states. In fact, on things such as dismissal of state governments, things are not as bad today as they were earlier. Part of this improvement is a result of the judiciary putting curbs on their misuse. The more pertinent question is what can the opposition do about these things? Have they gone beyond stage-managed events in the realm of mass politics? What share of AAP's campaign in Delhi was devoted to a principled defence of federalism? Most of it was focused on trying to convince voters that the BJP would discontinue AAP's welfare schemes. Has politics around federalism become a politics of tactical convenience where opposition parties agree with each other on certain things (such as more resources from the central government) but not on others (such as the north versus south issues). Is such opportunism blunting the ideological traction of this issue among the masses? Is grass-root political traction for political parties now more delinked from ideological issues such as the state of federalism and only contingent on identity and welfare-based issues? Is politics with the kind of money-power, which India has, even compatible with issues which invoke constitutional values anymore? To hope that one can find traction for the first two questions without honestly engaging with the third is, in many ways, politically delusional. Roshan Kishore, HT's Data and Political Economy Editor, writes a weekly column on the state of the country's economy and its political fallout, and vice-versa.

First and foremost is the issue of what can be described

## US reciprocal tariffs to affect select sectors: NITI Aayog

The US plan to impose reciprocal tariffs may have limited impact on India as it would select sectors only and could even create new opportunities for Indian exporters, NITI Aayog Programme Director Pravakar Sahoo said on Friday. India is well-positioned compared to Mexico, China, and Canada, which together account for 50 per cent of America's total imports, he said.

"We are analysing the data at a highly disaggregated level... These are preliminary findings, but I can assure you that we are not going to lose out. These reciprocal tariffs will affect only a few specific sectors and, in fact, could create opportunities to expand our exports," Sahoo said at the release of the second edition of NITI Aayog's quarterly Trade Watch. Meanwhile, NITI Aayog member Arvind Virmani pointed out that after the US imposed tariffs in 2018, China's share of US imports declined. He stated that such tariffs have historically led to increased export opportunities, benefiting five countries in 2018—Taiwan, Vietnam, Thailand, Mexico, and India.

The US has imposed a 25 per cent import duty on steel and aluminium products from March 12. It has also announced a sweeping 25 per cent tariff on completely built vehicles (CBUs) and auto parts, set to take effect on 3 April. US President Donald Trump has declared plans to introduce reciprocal tariffs in April on key trading partners, including India. He has repeatedly argued that India imposes high tariffs on US goods. The US has already imposed similar duties on Chinese imports. A US delegation, led by Assistant US Trade Representative for South and Central Asia Brendan Lynch, is currently in India for negotiations on a proposed bilateral trade agreement. The talks are expected to conclude on Saturday. India and the US are aiming to



India is well-positioned compared to Mexico, China, and Canada, which together account for 50 per cent of America's total imports, said NITI Aayog Programme Director Pravakar Sahoo

finalise the first phase of the agreement by autumn 2025 (September-October). Both nations have also set a target to more than double bilateral trade to \$500 billion by 2030, up from the current level of over \$190 billion.

## Current account deficit widens to \$11.5 billion in October-December quarter: RBI



GNS News Agency, March 31

India's current account deficit (CAD) widened to \$11.5 billion, or 1.1 per cent of the gross domestic product (GDP), in October-December 2024 quarter led by an increase in merchandise trade deficit, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) data showed. In the October-December 2023 quarter, the current account deficit stood at \$10.4 billion, or 1.1 per cent of GDP. During the April-December 2024 period, the current account deficit widened to \$37 billion, or 1.3 per cent of GDP, from \$ 30.6 billion (1.1 per cent of GDP) in the same period of 2023. The current account deficit is the difference between exports and imports of goods and services. It is a

key indicator of the country's external sector. In Q3 FY2025, merchandise trade deficit increased to \$79.2 billion from \$71.6 billion in the same period of the previous fiscal.

Net services receipts increased to \$51.2 billion in the third quarter of the current fiscal, compared to \$45 billion a year ago. Services exports have risen on a year-on-year basis across major categories such as business services, computer services, transportation services and travel services. During the reporting quarter, personal transfer receipts, mainly representing remittances by Indians employed overseas, rose to \$35.1 billion, as against \$30.6 billion in Q3 FY2024. In the financial account, foreign direct investment recorded a net outflow of \$2.8 billion in Q3 FY2025 as against an inflow of \$4 billion in the corresponding period of 2023-24, the RBI data showed. Foreign portfolio investment recorded a net outflow of \$11.4 billion as against an inflow of \$12 billion in Q3 FY2024. Net inflows under external commercial borrowings (ECBs) to India amounted to \$4.3 billion in the reporting quarter, as against an outflow of \$2.7 billion in the corresponding period a year ago. Non-resident deposits (NRI deposits) recorded a net inflow of \$3.1 billion, lower than \$3.9 billion a year ago. On a balance of payments (BoP) basis, there was a depletion of \$37.7 billion to the foreign exchange reserves in Q3 FY 2024-25, as against an accretion of \$6 billion in Q3 2023-24.

## With round 2 deadline nearing, PM Internship Scheme candidates attend open house to clear queries



Technical, policy, and process-related queries for the PM Internship Scheme were addressed by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs as 700 attendees participated in the third 'Candidate Open House for the PM Internship Scheme' it organised on Thursday, with the deadline for applying in the second round of the scheme nearing on March 31. Officials guided candidates on how to utilise the portal's features to select opportunities that align with their educational background, while also exploring new areas and diverse locations.

The weekly open house session, the third in the series, was attended by 684 participants, including officials from the ministry, three panelists who are currently interning under the scheme, and Don Lewis, who leads skill development and education at Mahindra & Mahindra's farm division. The second round of the scheme, currently in its pilot stage, began in January, with around 1.18 lakh internship opportunities up for grabs, spread across 735 districts. "More than 1,765 questions submitted through an online link were addressed live by members of the PMIS team. The queries mainly revolved around selection criteria, eligibility requirements, and sector-specific opportunities within the scheme. Questions raised through the chat box were also answered promptly during the session," a press release by the ministry on Friday said.

The weekly session, held to "serve as a vital touchpoint for aspirants navigating the application process", also included three current interns under the scheme. "Their stories highlighted the power of opportunity, proving that language, location, and background are no barriers to pursuing one's dreams," the release said. For instance, Ankit Kumar, who only spoke Haryanvi, took up an internship as a painter with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd in Maharashtra's Nashik.

"He openly discussed the challenges he faced initially, particularly as he only spoke Haryanvi, but appreciated the support he received from his mentors and supervisors, who made him feel welcome. (He) also highlighted the valuable experiences he gained during the internship, from hands-on learning on the shop floor and in-depth familiarisation with cars he had previously only heard about," according to the release. Another intern, Shweta Joshi, who relocated

from Madhya Pradesh is currently interning with Tech Mahindra as an associate software intern, the release said, adding that she is learning new tools including SQL, AWS CloudWatch, and analytics. The prospective candidates also raised other queries like a request to relax the age limit from 24 to 25 years, enquired about employment prospects after the internship, and highlighted few openings in the information technology sector. The Indian Express reported on Thursday. Lewis, who was the industry expert on the panel, highlighted how an internship in a top company can significantly enhance the employment prospects of a candidate. "He also advised the candidates to be proactive during the selection process and encouraged them to keep visiting the portal for regular updates," the release said.

During the session, an attendee asked whether the current cap of three applications per candidate is permanent or subject to change. In response, an official associated with the implementation of the scheme said, "For this round of the pilot phase of the scheme, you can apply for 3 internship opportunities. For subsequent rounds, the appropriate information will be conveyed to you in due course." Attendees from remote regions also participated in the session, and requested to create more awareness on the scheme. "The people of Gurez and Tangdar (Jammu & Kashmir) are completely unaware of the Prime Minister's Internship Scheme. Despite its potential benefits, there is little to no awareness about this opportunity in these regions," an attendee said. The PM Internship Scheme was announced as part of the Prime Minister's Package for Employment and Skilling announced in the Budget for 2024-25. Under the scheme, an amount of Rs 4,500 will be provided per month by the Government of India to selected candidates through Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT), with an additional Rs 500 offset to be provided by the company's CSR (corporate social responsibility) funds.

The government also provides a one-time grant of Rs 6,000 per annum for incidentals to cover miscellaneous expenses incurred by selected candidates during their internship. In the first round of the scheme that started in October last year, over 1.27 lakh internship opportunities were provided by companies in 745 districts across the country, as per official data shared with the Parliament's Standing Committee on Finance. Around 6.21 lakh applications were received from more than 1.8 lakh candidates. Over 82,000 internship offers were made to around 60,000 candidates. Out of this, over 28,000 candidates accepted offers to join the internship but only around 8,700 candidates ended up joining. The top five companies that have offered internship opportunities under the first pilot round of the scheme are: Jubilant Foodworks Limited (14,263 internship opportunities), Maruti Suzuki India Limited (12,444), ONGC Limited (6,020), Reliance Industries Limited (5,000), and Eicher Motors Limited (4,260). As per the region-wise breakup of the 8,725 interns in the first round, Uttar Pradesh led with 1,234 interns, followed by 994 interns in Odisha, 715 in Bihar, 693 in Madhya Pradesh and 467 in Odisha.

## SEBI proposes to streamline expiry day for derivatives – How will it benefit investors?

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has proposed to restrict the final settlement day or expiry day of equity derivatives products offered by stock exchanges to either on Tuesday or Thursday. The move is aimed at providing predictability and stability to market participants around expiry days. In a consultation paper, the market regulator proposed that expiries of all equity derivatives contracts of an exchange will be uniformly limited to one of either Tuesdays or Thursdays. "Every exchange will continue to be allowed one weekly benchmark index options contract, on their chosen day (Tuesday or Thursday)," the SEBI said. Besides benchmark index options, all other equity derivatives contracts, such as all benchmark index futures, non-benchmark index futures / options, and all single stock futures / options will be offered with a minimum tenor of one month, and the expiry will be in the last week of every month on their chosen day, that is, last Tuesday or last Thursday of the month, the regulator suggested. The SEBI, however, said that exchanges will have to seek its prior approval for launching or modifying any contract expiry or settlement day.

Equity derivatives contracts are generally launched with a minimum tenure of a month. An exception to this is options contracts on a single benchmark index per exchange, where weekly expiries are currently allowed. As per the regulations, the specifications of such weekly options contracts, including the choice of expiry day, has been left to the respective stock exchanges to decide. Presently, the two major exchanges in equity derivatives (i.e. BSE and NSE) have chosen Tuesday and Thursday, respectively, as the expiry days for derivatives contracts on single stocks and indices. Monthly single stocks derivatives contracts on one of the exchanges expire mid-month, whereas monthly index derivatives contracts on these constituents expire in the last week of the month for that exchange. Earlier this month, NSE had announced to revise the expiry day of

index and stock derivatives contracts to Monday from Thursday, effective April 4. However, following the SEBI's consultation paper, the exchange has deferred the move. "Spacing out of expiry days through the week reduces concentration risk and provides an opportunity to exchanges to offer product differentiation to market participants," SEBI said in the draft proposal. At the same time, too many expiry days has the potential to revive expiry day hyperactivity which could jeopardize investor protection and market stability, it said.

How will the proposed norms benefit investors?

The formalisation of the final settlement days for equity derivatives contracts across exchanges will give predictability to market participants while avoiding any unwarranted shuffling of such days that may impact market integrity or orderly trading, SEBI said. Ideal spacing of expiry days while optimizing the number of such days will reduce concentration risk and provide room for product innovation and risk management. It will help in ensuring investor protection and market stability. "While expiry days are usually volatile days, the risk and uncertainty rises a notch on Mondays and Fridays due to the impact of the weekend. This is due to news flow over the weekend that can cause gapped openings, as well as time decay which causes options to lose value over the weekend," said Anand James, Chief Market Strategist, Geojit Investments Ltd. These risks may be lessened if expiries are avoided on Mondays or Fridays as proposed in the SEBI's consultation paper, he said. "While we appreciate SEBI's efforts to enhance market predictability and stability the proposed move towards a uniform expiry day and primarily monthly expiries warrants careful consideration for Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) like ours that actively utilize derivatives for alpha generation and hedging," said Puneet Sharma, CEO and Fund Manager at Whitespace Alpha, a multi-asset class asset management firm.



